

In the Specification:

Page 1, change the title of the application to read --METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EFFECTING SHINGLING OF CONVEYED PRINTED PRODUCTS--;

Page 1, at the beginning of the paragraph immediately following the heading "Background of the Invention", insert the following sentence:

C1 --This is a divisional application from Serial No. 08/496,822, filed June 29, 1995.--

In the Claims:

NE Claim 16, line 21, delete "means".

Claim 20, line 11, after "being" insert --at least--.

Claim 23, line 12, after "being" insert --at least--.

NE Claim 31, line 1, delete "means".

REMARKS

The above caption for this Amendment includes the title of the application as amended in applicants' Supplemental Preliminary Amendment forwarded to Examiner Eickholt via facsimile on January 27, 1999.

Claims 7-31 are pending in the application. Claims 7-15 and 7-30 have been allowed, while claims 16 and 31 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the formal objections under 35 USC § 112 as set forth on page 2 of the Action.

It is noted that the Office Action addresses claim 1 of the subject divisional application. However, claim 1 was cancelled in applicants' Preliminary Amendment filed September 25, 1998 with the subject divisional application (top of page 4 of the Preliminary Amendment).

Claims 16 and 31 have been amended in a manner believed to overcome the rejections under 35 USC § 112 and to place claims 16 and 31 in condition for allowance.

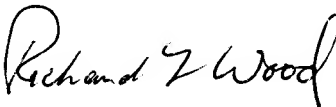
Independent claims 20 and 23 have been amended to call for the claimed knockdown members as being "at least" equal in number to the number of knife blades on the rotary cutter that establish the trailing edges of the irregularly spaced sheet products. This language comports with similar language in independent claims 7, 16, 17 and 19.

The amendments to claims 16, 20, 23 and 31 are to overcome formality objections and provide clarity for applicants' claimed invention, and are not to be interpreted as necessary or intended to substantively distinguish applicants' claimed invention over the prior art of record.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of applicants' claims 7-31 is believed to be in order and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 7, 1999  
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